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**Order of the Public Health Officer**  
**Novel Coronavirus Public Health Protective Measures in Cowley County Kansas.**

**WHEREAS**, On May 26, 2020 the Governor of Kansas announced the veto of the Substitute for HB 2054 related to COVID-19 response statewide. The consequences of this action included the expiration of previously issued emergency declarations which expired at midnight May 26, 2020;

**WHEREAS**, Cowley County Kansas, the State of Kansas and the United States of America is continuing to take protective measures to ensure the health and well being of its citizens and to minimize the threat of the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19);

**WHEREAS**, responsibility for local public health protective measures in the times of a pandemic are vested in the state and local public health officers;

**WHEREAS**, the Public Health Officer in Cowley County Kansas seeks to promote the health and wellbeing of all Cowley County residents by taking actions to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 while working with the community to ensure the ongoing economic prosperity of Cowley County;

**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Public Health Officer of Cowley County, Kansas and as provided by K.S.A.65-119 and K.S.A.65-202 it is directed as follows:

1. Direction for the orderly return to social and economic activity in Cowley Kansas may follow the guidelines provided by the State of Kansas through the “Ad Astra: Plan to Reopen Kansas” (hereinafter referred to as “the plan”) as currently published while reserving the authority to amend said guidelines in order to protect the health of Cowley County citizens as outlined in the attached guidance.
2. Current reopening plans made by Cowley County and the local municipalities therein in conjunction with guidance from the Public Health Officer shall remain in place as currently drawn.
3. Mass Gatherings shall remain limited as outlined in the plan.
4. Individual activities shall remain limited as outlined in the plan.
5. Business activities shall remain limited as outlined in the plan.
6. Education activities shall remain limited as outlined in the plan.
7. Essential Functions shall continue as outlined in the plan.

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(620) 221-1430



City-Cowley County  
Health Department

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This document shall be filed in the office of the County Clerk of Cowley County, Kansas and be effective as of 12:00 A.M. on May 27, 2020. This Order Shall remain in effect until such time that the threat to the health of Cowley County citizens from the COVID-19 pandemic ceases, or the Public Health Officer rescinds, replaces or modifies the order, or the State of Kansas can take appropriate legal action to once again create a Statewide structure dealing with the COVID-19 public health pandemic that all Kansas Counties may follow.

City Cowley County Health Department

Public Health Officer \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cowley County Clerk

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## **Guidance for Individuals and Employers/Businesses**

### 1. Guidance for Individuals:

- a. Individuals are strongly encouraged to take all personal health protective measures to prevent the spread of illness including frequent hand washing, use of social distancing from others, avoiding crowded venues and events, and the use of appropriate masks following industry specific guidelines especially in workplaces.
- b. When in public all individuals should seek to maintain adequate distance from others (with members of the same household exempted) and avoid prolonged personal interactions whenever possible.
- c. All individuals should be aware of their current health status and adhere to the guidance of staying home if you are feeling ill. If you believe you may have been exposed to COVID-19 contact your health care provider or the health department to arrange testing.
- d. Individuals that are at high risk or vulnerable should limit their interactions with others to protect their health.
- e. If you are traveling outside of Cowley County be mindful that you will assume the health risks of the population centers that you visit and the exposures to illness that you may have will travel with you. It is hoped that you limit travel to that of an essential nature. If you travel to any location listed by the CDC or the KDHE as requiring isolation or quarantine upon your return you will be required to adhere to those requirements. You are strongly urged to check the travel restrictions connected to your journey prior to leaving home.

### 2. Guidance for Employers/Business:

- a. Require all employees that are feeling ill or experiencing any signs of illness to remain at home. If an employee becomes ill at work require that the illness be immediately reported and that the employee is directed to go home. If symptoms persist require the employees to seek immediate medical attention and undergo testing for COVID-19. Require a negative test result for the active virus before allowing the employee to return to work.
- b. Maintain spacing of workers as much as possible to eliminate any person to person spread of illness on the job. Use personal
- c. Require good personal and industrial hygiene on the job. Ensure that hand washing stations and restrooms are properly supplied and kept clean. Keep the facilities clean especially common area such as lunchrooms or break rooms.

- d. If you are traveling outside of Cowley County for business be mindful that you will assume the health risks of the population centers that you visit and the exposures to illness that you may have will travel with you. If you travel to any location listed by the CDC or the KDHE as requiring isolation or quarantine upon your return you will be required to adhere to those requirements. You are strongly urged to check the travel restrictions connected to your trip prior to planning your travel.
- e. Consider special needs accommodations for any member of your staff that are members of vulnerable population groups.
- f. Post signage in your local business or facility that reminds the public and the employee to stay home if they are ill.
- g. Request for any variance to guidance can be made in writing to the Cowley County Public Health Officer. All requests will be considered by a local task force comprised of local government representatives, emergency management, local business and the Public Health Officer. All requests will need to be accompanied by a detailed plan that describes the steps that will be taken to accommodate the specific request while at the same time protecting the health of workers and the public.